

Cal/EPA Environmental Justice Advisory Committee (CEJAC)

Goals for Pilot Project Inclusion in Cal/EPA Environmental Justice Pilot Projects Adopted by CEJAC for Recommendation to the Secretary and IWG

June 2, 2005

The pilot projects were specifically included in the Cal/EPA EJ Action Plan in order to focus attention on critical environmental risks in specific communities in order to develop more effective methods of achieving environmental justice and improving children's health. Implementation should advance the following goals:

1. Projects should be community-driven. This means that the projects address issues important to community organizations or groups of residents and that the Local Advisory Groups have significant community representation and involvement.
2. Projects should advance the precautionary approach as approved by the IWG.
3. Projects should advance the assessment and reduction of cumulative impacts that disproportionately impact environmental justice communities. Per the working definition approved by the IWG, the assessment and reduction of cumulative impacts should be completed within the pilot project to the degree possible. Assessment and remedies that are not feasible due to resources or scientific limitations but would be beneficial to addressing the problem should be described in order assist with priority and policy setting.
4. Projects should include extensive public participation. Per the draft policy reviewed by the Advisory Committee on Environmental Justice, the pilot project should utilize and evaluate new methods for effective public participation and share the results with the Advisory Committee.
5. Project activities should have policy ramifications. Results from the pilot projects should be evaluated in a manner that addresses the sufficiency and gaps in current laws, regulations, and practices, and suggests new policies to improve protection of human health and the environment.
6. Projects may be focused on a specific environmental medium, and therefore coordinated by a single BDO, but the project should identify where a modest amount of additional resources from other BDOs could substantially improve the Agency's response to the multimedia impacts experienced by the community.